

MAIN DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS OF THE HUNGARIAN EMIGRATED TO CANADA

by

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1. Canada and her population

As regards area, Canada is the second largest country of the world (9.7 million km²), while in the order of population size she is the twenty-ninth: in 1976 she had 22,8 million inhabitants. According to estimations Canada's population would increase to 24 million by 1981.¹ There is no settlement on 90 per cent of the area (750 thousand km² is water surface, 3.8 km² arctic region, 2,5 million km² forest). 30 per cent of the population lives in three large cities: Toronto, Montreal and Vancouver.

In 1851 only 2,4 million people lived in Canada. In the rapid population increase of the following period, both immigration and high natural increase played a role. The population of Canada increased to its tenfold during 130 years.

Table 1.

Population of Canada (1851 – 1981)

Year	Number of the population	1851 = 100%	Rate of increase
1851	2.436 297	100,0	—
1871	3.689 257	151,4	151,4
1901	5.731 315	135,2	155,4
1921	8.787 949	360,7	153,3
1945	11.506 655	472,3	130,9
1951	14.009 429	575,0	121,7
1961	18.238 247	748,6	130,2
1971	21.568 310	885,3	118,2
1981	24.041 000 ¹	986,8	111,5

Considering the population of Canada by place of birth, it may be seen that 18,2 million persons born in Canada are followed by those 933 thousand persons born in the United Kingdom. Italy is the third, the USA the fourth. Out of 131 890 persons, Hungarian by ethnic origin 68,500 were born in Hungary and 65 390 persons in Canada. The population of

Canada is composed of peoples from 70 countries. The Nationality Act warrants for all nationalities to live according to their own national characteristics.

The survey by the place of birth may be well completed by analysing the distribution by mother tongue. About 31 languages are spoken in Canada. From among these, English is spoken by 60 per cent of the population, French by 26,9 per cent, German by 2,6 per cent, Italian by 2,5 per cent, and Ukrainian by 1,4 per cent; the share of persons speaking any other language does not reach one per cent, even. Hungarian language is declared as mother tongue by 86 830 Canadian Hungarians, corresponding to 65,8 per cent of the Canadian Hungarian population, and 0,4 per cent of the total Canadian population.

2. The development of the number and composition of the population of Hungarian ethnic origin

Let us consider now in more details how the number and demographic composition of the Hungarians developed among the multi-colour population of Canada. Our investigations should be limited to the study of the population structure and mechanical demography, as the data of natural vital events are not processed by ethnic origin in the Canadian statistics.

One part of the data used comes from full scope collecting, others result from representative surveys. Thus, the 1971 Census of Canada fully processed the data on the number, distribution by sex, nationality, mother tongue of the population, as well as data on the language mostly used, date of birth and those on marital status. Other data, as for instance those on occupation, income, private households, educational level, housing stock and housing conditions were estimated through a sample survey covering 1/3 of basic data.

After the discovery of America the interest of European maritime nations turned to the new continent. Jacques Cartier, a French sea-captain was the first who set foot on the shore of Canada, in 1535. Not quite 50 years later the first Hungarian, Stephen Parmenius of Buda was there. Parmenius was a famous geographer who accompanied Humphrey Gilbert, the famous English explorer.² Parmenius of Buda escaped from the Turks. Next Hungarian immigrants arrived about the middle of the 19th century, fleeing from the Habsburg oppression to America, after the suppression of the war of independence. The Canadian population census of 1851 – 52 found 15 Hungarian immigrants, although their birth place is registered as "Austro-Hungarian Monarchy"³. From among the 15 Hungarians mentioned, 5 persons were conscripted in Waterloo, 2 in Rimouski, 1 in Toronto and 1 in Welland. Those who had settled in Niagara Falls were visited by Lajos Kossuth in 1851.⁴

During the decades of the 60s, 70s and 80s of the century, Hungarian immigration is not significant, Hungarian immigrants arrive mainly from

America and not from the native country. In 1865 labourers of tobacco factories arrive from the United States in Montreal. They were mostly peasants, who were fleeing from American mines and factories back to their original occupation, farming way of life.

The first settlement in Saskatchevan was established by people coming from county Somogy, and give the name Kaposvár to it.

According to migration statistics, in 1880 2 persons, in 81 1 person, in 82 38, in 83 7 and in 84 26 persons arrived in Canada from Hungary.⁵ In 1886 already 35 families emigrated. From 1888 on emigration became continuous in consequence of the organization of the emigration office in New York, established by Pál Eszterházy. Settling in Canada was promoted by giving field, draught animal and equipments free to the farmers.

More remarkable Hungarian scattered settlements came into being in Canada during the two last decades of the 19th century. At that time about one and a half thousand Hungarians lived in Canada. Hungarian village-names Eszterházy, Kaposvár, Halmok, Otthon, Békevár (today: Kipling), Mátyásföld (today: Wakaw), Sokhalom (today: Stockholm) get on the map of Canada at that time. The course of peopling — with details concerning families and generations — is described by Jenő Ruzsa, Lutheran priest in his book.⁶

In 1892 the Hungarians of Kaposvár already had their own school. One part of the settlers did not settled down on the fields got free, but bought field on the instalment system from the Canadian Pacific Railway Company building railway in 1881 through 85. They got themselves into a better state than the settlers of Sascatchevan, because they were not isolated, they got near to the transport, they could better sell their products. One part of the former ones left the free fields and migrated further to the mining regions of Alberta. At this time Hungarian scattered settlements came into being in the towns of Lethbridge, Taber and Raymond, as well as in the province Manitoba, too. In Winnipeg the state immigration home worked; the settlers were directed from here to working places, or in the case of repatriation, to the mother country.

According to the migration statistics the largest immigrating group in the 19th century arrived in 1893, 241 persons. Canadian statistics reports 1081 immigrants altogether up to 1900. From 1901 till World War I 6506 persons immigrated to Canada. Most of them were peasants, with low educational level and without knowing languages. In my opinion, this may explain that the mother tongue was such a strong bonds for them that settling in Canada could not be imagined otherwise than among Hungarians. Since than no Hungarian settlement has been established, although the number of immigrations exceeded by 300 per cent that of the turn of the century.

Concerning the number of Hungarians migrated to Canada, in the literature published in Canada one finds data differing from those of the official statistics. According to József Tamás, in 1900–1910 9876 persons, during the period of World War I 4611, in 1921–30 29959, in 1931–40 4177, in 1941–50 4918 Hungarians migrated to Canada.⁷

Table 2.

The number of Hungarian population in Canada

Year	Number	1901 = 100 %	In percentage of the preceding year
1901	1 549	100,0	—
1911	11 648	751,9	751,9
1921	13 181	850,9	113,2
1931	40 582	2 619,9	307,9
1941	54 598	3 524,7	134,5
1951	60 460	3 903,2	110,7
1961	126 220	8 148,5	208,8
1971	131 890	8 514,5	104,4

In 1911 already 11 648 Hungarians lived in Canada. Most of them still are agricultural workers and peasants, still. There were several persons among them, who came to the new home just to get and spare money enough to return home and buy there 4–5 „holds” of land. Others were attracted to settle permanently by the possibility of getting rich.⁸ First only men arrived, and later took their families, who were married.⁹

During the decade of the World War emigration slowed down because men were at the front, and the number of Hungarians living in Canada grew again by 2000 persons only at the end of the war. From the migration statistics it cannot be seen, how many of them came directly from Hungary, or from the USA or from any other country.

The second period of immigration may be deemed to begin at the end of the World War. During two decades between two censuses taken in Canada after the Peace Treaty of Trianon, the number Hungarians in Canada increased by 37 000 persons. Among immigrants, already not only peasants may be found, bad economic situation is not the only motive of migration — nevertheless, at the end of the decade, it had again a significant effect — but migration had political incentives, too. There were some who were induced to emigrate by fear from the Horthy regime after the suppression of the Hungarian Soviet Republic, or persecution even; while others were moved by the hope of a better way of life. Hungarians of regions got by the neighbouring countries were induced also by fear from persecution.

Up to 1920, the main settling regions of Hungarians immigrated to Canada were the agricultural settlements of the western provinces of the Saskatchewan, British Columbia, Alberta, Manitoba. Immigrants of the following decades preferred to settle in the more industrialized eastern regions, in Quebec, Ontario; and here mostly in towns, cities (Toronto, Montreal, Hamilton, Windsor, etc.). in 1931, the number of Hungarians living in Canada amounts to 40 and a half thousand, in 1941 to 54 and a half thousand. At that time, already various cultural, educational, and church institutions are in action in the cities, and larger settlements, thus: Hungarian houses, libraries, schools and associations were established.

The role of churches that was distinguished earlier, too, continued to increase. Religious organizations play important role in the life of all nationalities. In certain towns 40–60 kind of religious organizations work. For instance, in Hamilton in 1978 there were 45 kinds of religious institutions, they maintained 220 churches and schools. The role of churches, however, differs from that in Europe. In Canada, a priest, beyond doing the traditional religious functions, solves feuds of families, arranges matters of employment, organizes cultural programmes and social meetings, parties (these are held generally in the church or in a house of culture operating beside the church). Moreover, he manages schools, kindergartens, troop of boy scouts.

The third immigration wave, differing in character from the earlier ones, occurs during and at the end of World War II. Among the immigrants refugees of officers of the Hungarian army, gendarmerie and state officials of higher positions may be found. During the same period also industrialists, merchants and capitalists emigrated from Hungary appear in Canada. Persons belonging to the stratum of merchants spoke English, but among those belonging to the army or gendarmerie there were very few speaking either English or French. Command of languages played significant role in finding a job, indeed. In 1951 60 450 Hungarians were registered by the population census of Canada.

The fourth and most significant immigration happened in the years 1956–65. The number of immigrants may be estimated as 34–40 thousand. They differ from earlier immigrants as most of them spoke some western language and had a diploma or qualification. Engineers, physicians and teachers were among them, as well as librarians and economists.

3. The development of the spatial distribution of the Hungarian population

New immigrants mainly settled in Ontario, Quebec and British Columbia. However, it should be noted that also the mobility of the Hungarians has increased in Canada during the last two decades. It is generally known that in the USA an average family changes its residence fourteen times during its life time. Mobility in Canada is somewhat less, but only slightly falls behind that of the USA.

Let us consider in the following how the spatial distribution of the Hungarians took shape in Canada in 1971.

In 1971 49,9 per cent of the Hungarians lived in Ontario, followed by 12,6 per cent in Alberta and 13 per cent in British Columbia. Analysing the changes of the spatial distribution of the Hungarians in Canada between 1921 and 1971, one can see that the main settlement region was Saskatchewan in 1921, 8946 Hungarians lived there – 67,8 per cent of the Canadian Hungarians; and by 1971 their centre of gravity has been transferred into the province of Ontario.

The general tendency may be established that between 1951 and 1971 the increase of the number of the Hungarians was accompanied by the doubling of the Hungarian populations of the provinces.

Table 3.

**The distribution of Canadian Hungarians by provinces
(1971)**

Name of the province	Number	%
Newfoundland (T. N.)	105	0,1
Prince Eduard (P. E.)	20	0,0
New-Ecoss (N. E.)	755	0,6
New-Brunswick (N. Br.)	365	0,3
Québec (Qué.)	12 570	9,5
Ontario (Ont.)	65 695	49,8
Manitoba (Man.)	5 405	4,1
Saskatchewan (Sask.)	13 825	10,5
Alberta (Alta)	16 240	12,3
B. Columbia (B. C.)	16 600	12,3
Yukon (Yukon)	195	0,1
Territ. du Nord Ouest (N. Ouest)	115	0,1
Total	131,890	100,0

Table 4.

**Hungarian population by provinces
(1921 - 1971)**

Name of the province	1921	1931	1941	1951	1961	1971
Québec	89	4 018	4 134	4 127	15 561	12 570
Manitoba	828	1 955	2 418	2 326	5 443	5 405
Ontario	1 737	13 786	22 039	28 182	59 427	65 695
Saskatchewan	8 946	13 363	14 576	12 470	16 059	13 828
Alberta	1 045	5 502	7 892	7 794	15 293	16 240
British C.	343	1 313	2 893	4 948	12 833	16 600

The majority of the Hungarians live in towns. As against 106 585 urban residents in 1971 only 25 305 persons lived in rural areas. From among the latter ones 11 515 were farmers and 13 790 were rural residents of non-agricultural jobs.

More than 70 per cent of the urban residents lived in towns with more than 100 000 inhabitants. In 1971 there were 39 settlements having more than 500 Hungarian inhabitants.

The number of inhabitants of Montreal and Toronto may be surprising. In Hungary Toronto is regarded a city where more than 50 000 Hungarians live. However, even including the Hungarian population of the Toronto agglomeration, all together 23 thousand Hungarians may be found there. In the same time it deserves attention, that in Montreal

there are 11 500 Hungarians, in Vancouver at the Pacific Ocean more than 8000, Thunder Bay (Ont.) 10 600, and the Hamilton industrial agglomeration has 7755 Hungarians.

Table 5.

The number of Hungarians in the agglomerations of cities and large towns
(1971)

City, town	Number of Hungarians
Calgary (Alta.)	5 520
Edmonton (Alta.)	3 230
Hamilton (Ont.)	7 755
Kitchener (Ont.)	1 830
London (Ont.)	2 215
Montréal (Qué.)	11 480
Ottawa (Ont.)	1 965
Regina (Sask.)	3 135
St. Cathrines (Ont.)	6 885
Saskatoon (Sask.)	1 490
Thunder Bay (Ont.)	10 600
Toronto (Ont.)	23 350
Vancouver (B. C.)	8 210
Winnipeg (Man.)	3 860

4. Distribution by sex and age

The sex ratio of the population in Canada differs from that in Hungary. While in Hungary, during the last century there was always a female surplus, in Canada — due to the characteristics of the immigration, as more males emigrated — there was a male surplus. In 1971 there were 867 Hungarian women per 1000 males, in Hungary 1064 women.

Analysing the sex ratio by age-groups (Table 6) one may see female surplus in two age-groups: in group 20—24 and 60—64 years.

Considering the sex ratio in large towns, in two of them, Port Colborne and Saskatoon, female surplus, in the other ones male surplus may be seen. In Laval there are only 738 women per 1000 men, and in Oshawa only 788.

Studying the tendency of the sex ratio, we find that the male surplus is gradually decreasing, and in the last two decades there is a trend of levelling.

Studying and comparing the age structure of the population of Hungary and that of Hungarians in Canada, it may be observed that the number of persons belonging to the age-group 0—15 years and 60 years and over represent a more favourable situation in Canada than at home. The share of agegroup 0—15 years is higher in Canada: 26,9 per cent, in Hungary: 20,6 per cent; the age structure of persons aged 15—59 is somewhat

**Sex and age distribution of the Hungarian population
(1971)**

Table 6.

Age-group	Males	Females	Females per 1000 males
0 - 4	5 405	5 180	958
5 - 9	6 475	6 090	940
10 - 14	6 390	5 985	936
15 - 19	5 175	4 845	936
20 - 24	4 065	4 185	1 029
25 - 29	4 130	3 750	908
30 - 34	6 115	4 235	692
35 - 39	6 555	4 605	702
40 - 44	5 845	4 505	770
45 - 49	5 475	4 205	768
50 - 54	3 315	2 690	811
55 - 59	2 630	2 555	971
60 - 64	2 285	2 575	1 126
65 - 69	2 770	2 645	954
70 - 74	2 340	1 755	750
75 - 79	1 095	845	771
80 - 84	430	375	872
85 - 89	140	160	1 142
90 -	50	50	1 000
Total	70 685	61 235	866

better at home than in Canada. Its share is 59,8 per cent in Canada, 62,1 per cent in Hungary. But at age 60 and over the share is better again in Canada. In Hungary they represent 17,4 per cent, in Canada 13,2 per cent, in 1971.

5. The distribution of the Hungarian population in Canada by marital status

The analysis of the picture on the marital status of the Hungarians living in Canada is also informative. In 1970 66,8 per cent of the population lived in married status in Hungary, while only 50,9 per cent of the Hungarian population in Canada. 42,7 per cent of the Canadian Hungarians is single (in Hungary 20,7 per cent). The share of widowed is 4,5 per cent (in Hungary 9,6 per cent), that of the divorced is 1,9 per cent (in Hungary 2,9 per cent).

In table 7. the data on the marital status of Hungarians in Canada are compared with those of the French in Canada. Differences are the smallest at the rates of widows and widowers as well as between those regarding to married men.

Canadian statistics do not deal with the question whether Hungarian men and women mates of what nationality had chosen. According to the

Table 7.

**Marital status of the population
(1971)**

	Hungarian population		French population	
	Number	%	Number	%
Single				
Males	31 540	23,9	1.721 040	27,8
Females	24 750	18,8	1.592 460	25,8
Married				
Males	36 520	27,7	1.294 150	20,9
Females	30 640	23,2	1.321 085	21,4
Widowed				
Males	1 375	1,0	49 880	0,8
Females	4 645	3,5	176 520	2,9
Divorced				
Males	1 210	0,9	11 240	0,2
Females	1 220	1,0	13 740	0,2
Total	131 890	100,0	6.180 120	100,0

investigations of Karol Krotki, director of the Demographic and Sociological Institute of the Edmonton University¹⁰, 25 per cent of the couples in Canada are of different nationalities. Hungarian spouses have Polish, French, Belgian, Italian or Yugoslav husband or wife the most frequently. But Chinese, Japanese, Indian or Eskimo spouse may be found scarcely.

Table 8.

**Distribution by marital status of the Hungarian population living in Canadian towns having more than 2000
Hungarian inhabitants (percentage)**

Town	Single	Married	Separated	Divorced	Widowed	Total
Calgary	43,8	48,8	1,5	3,4	2,5	100,0
Hamilton	37,6	51,7	2,6	5,9	2,2	100,0
Edmonton	47,6	46,3	2,0	2,6	1,5	100,0
Montreal	36,9	49,5	3,3	6,5	3,8	100,0
Regina	45,5	46,0	2,9	4,5	1,1	100,0
Toronto	39,1	43,8	5,1	7,0	5,0	100,0
Vancouver	42,5	45,0	4,7	4,1	3,7	100,0
Welland	39,7	51,6	2,4	5,0	1,3	100,0
Windsor	38,0	49,4	2,6	8,5	1,4	100,0
Winnipeg	44,2	43,9	3,6	5,1	3,2	100,0

On the basis of the results of a representative data procession carried out by the Canadian Statistical Office, at our request, in table 8 the distribution of the Hungarian population living in Canadian towns having more than 2000 Hungarian inhabitants are shown by marital status. These data differ from the national average characteristic of the Hungarians living in Canada, partly due to consequences of urban way of life, partly due to the errors of the sample selecting and data procession. The share of singles is the highest in Edmonton, the lowest in Hamilton. The share of the married is the highest in Hamilton, the lowest in Toronto. As regards to persons living separated, Toronto takes the first place, a smallest share may be observed in Calgary. The share of the divorced is the highest in Windsor, the smallest in Edmonton. Finally, most widowed persons live in Toronto, and the less in Regina.

5. Occupational data

According to the results of the representative data procession the estimation may be regarded as acceptable that in 1971 about 48–49 per cent of the Canadian Hungarian population was active earner. In Hungary the same rate is 62,0 per cent in 1970. Naturally, in a vast country, differences may be rather large according to the development level of industry, mining and trade. In order to show the differences, in table 9 the number and share of active earners is presented by regions, compared to the total population. The highest share of active earners may be found in Toronto, the city in the country with the largest number of inhabitants and mostly industrialized (56,6 per cent). It is followed by Vancouver situated on the seashore of the Pacific Ocean (54,2 per cent), and the lowest share of active earners may found in town Lethbridge situated in Saskatchewan (38,4 per cent). As regards to the absolute number of earners, also Toronto is the leader with 4600 heads, followed by Montreal with 3000 earners. The third one is Hamilton having 2495 earners.

Intellectuals and employees — including those in financial management and state administration — show the highest shares in the capital of the country: Ottawa (53,8 per cent). This is followed by the two metropolises Montreal and Toronto (41,8 per cent and 36,8 per cent resp.). Looking at the absolute numbers, however, the first place is taken by Toronto where about 1690 earners, and the second by Montreal where 1250 persons are working in this category of occupations. (In Calgary there are 770, in Hamilton 610 persons).

Beyond mentioning these shares, it deserves mentioning, that significant industrial works are owned by Hungarians; thus several works of electrical machines, tobacco industries, factories of precision engineering tool engineering and of radio-gramophone.

The share of Hungarians working in communication and transport is the highest in Brantford and Niagara Falls, among the towns having more than 1000 Hungarian inhabitants.

Table 9.

Number and share of active earners in Canadian towns where more than 1000 Hungarians lived in 1971

Name of the town	Hungarian population head	Number of active earners	Percentage
Brantford	1 850	690	43,7
Burlington	1 160	555	47,8
Calgary	2 520	.	.
Calgary, urbanized area	5 520	2 565	46,5
Edmonton	3 035	1 435	47,3
Hamilton	5 540	2 495	45,0
Kitchener	1 050	550	52,4
Laval	1 095	550	50,2
Lethbridge	1 670	650	38,9
London	1 845	900	48,8
Mississauga	1 335	600	
Montréal	5 815	3 000	51,6
Niagara Falls	1 145	495	43,2
Oshawa	1 060	445	42,0
Ottawa	1 165	595	51,1
Port Colborne	1 120	430	38,4
Regina	3 130	1 445	46,2
Saskatoon	1 490	625	41,9
Toronto	8 125	4 600	56,6
Vancouver	4 005	2 170	54,2
Welland	2 975	1 280	43,0
Windsor	3 220	1 395	43,3
Winnipeg	2 060	1 060	51,5

In the category of "other occupations" Brantford, Port Colborne and Niagara Falls show the highest shares, while Laval and Winnipeg the lowest ones. As for absolute numbers, Toronto is the first with 660 earners followed by Montreal with 460 persons. The third place is taken by Hamilton with 375 earners. (Table 10).

The participation of Hungarians in the commercial life of Canada is less both in absolute figures and share. Among Hungarian shopkeepers the creator of self-service shops we have to mention also by name, the Steinberg family who emigrated in 1932. They have 35 supermarkets in Montreal only.

The participation of Hungarians in the services worth mentioning. The order of rank starts with Oshawa (9 per cent), the highest share is represented by Niagara Falls (20.9 per cent). Considering the absolute figures, Toronto, Calgary and Hamilton are eminent.

As regards agriculture, the earlier statement is to be repeated; namely that up to the end of World War I mostly peasants, agricultural workers emigrated to Canada, in the following decades there were already people of industrial occupations among them, and after 1945 also the emigration of own-account workers and employees is significant. The remarkable decrease of the population living on agriculture is partly the consequence

Table 10.

Distribution of active earners by occupational groups in towns having more than 1000
Hungarian inhabitants
%

Name of the town	Intellectuals, management, employees	Trade	Services	Agriculture, forestry, horticulture, fishery	Industry, construction, mining	Communication, transport	Other	Total
Brantford	18,9	4,3	12,3	3,6	38,4	5,8	16,7	100,0
Burlington	32,5	8,1	9,9	1,8	27,0	5,4	15,3	100,0
Calgary	30,0	8,6	14,8	1,4	31,0	4,1	10,1	100,0
Edmonton	26,8	5,9	13,6	0,7	31,7	5,6	15,7	100,0
Hamilton	24,5	5,8	14,8	1,4	34,9	3,6	15,0	100,0
Kitchener	19,1	7,3	12,7	2,7	43,7	0,9	13,6	100,0
Laval	33,9	10,1	6,4	—	37,6	2,8	9,2	100,0
Lethbridge	18,5	10,8	15,4	6,1	27,7	7,7	13,8	100,0
London	32,2	6,7	12,2	1,1	28,9	3,3	15,6	100,0
Mississauga	38,3	11,7	7,5	1,7	25,8	4,2	10,8	100,0
Montreal	41,8	6,3	9,3	0,3	22,2	4,8	15,3	100,0
Niagara Falls	23,2	8,1	20,2	3,0	26,3	3,0	16,2	100,0
Oshawa	16,9	2,2	9,0	1,1	52,8	4,5	13,5	100,0
Ottawa	53,8	3,4	13,4	1,7	16,8	0,8	10,1	100,0
Port Colborne	27,9	8,1	17,4	—	29,1	1,2	16,3	100,0
Regina	32,9	10,7	18,7	2,8	17,6	5,9	11,4	100,0
Saskatoon	28,8	11,2	15,2	1,6	32,8	4,0	6,4	100,0
Toronto	36,8	6,8	15,7	2,2	21,4	2,8	14,3	100,0
Vancouver	27,2	5,3	21,0	1,4	28,6	2,5	14,0	100,0
Welland	28,5	6,3	10,5	0,4	37,1	1,6	15,6	100,0
Windsor	28,7	9,0	14,3	1,4	31,5	3,6	11,5	100,0
Winnipeg	26,4	5,2	16,0	2,4	38,2	2,4	9,4	100,0

of mechanization, partly it is due to the fact that the stratum of persons having no occupation had worked in agriculture only until they could not find an other job. In 1971 in Canada the number of Hungarian agricultural earners may be estimated at about 12–13 000 persons, from among these 11 500 were farmers. In towns, in 1971 the share of agricultural earners was 0–3,6 per cent. About 100 agricultural earners of Toronto deserve mentioning.

The share of persons working in industry, construction and mining is the highest in Oshawa (52,8 per cent), and the lowest in Ottawa (16,8 per cent).

6. Mother tongue and the language used most frequently among Hungarians

In the introduction the nationality structure has been mentioned already, it has been shown how many nationalities Canada's population is composed of. This fact in itself means that populations living there — in order to survive — have to learn other languages beyond the native language. The only exception is the English, and in the province Quebec, French, as there are French people in majority. As regards the Hungarians' use of languages, according to statistics of 1971, from among the 131 890 Hungarian immigrants: 53,7 per cent speaks Hungarian, 39,7 per cent speaks English, German is spoken by 2,3 per cent, and French by 1465 Hungarians (1,1 per cent), Serbo-Croatian by 0,5 per cent, and non of other languages is used by more than 0,2 per cent.

As mentioned earlier, Hungarian is regarded as mother tongue by 86 830 persons (65,8 per cent of the Hungarians living in Canada). The

Table 11.

The language used most frequently by Canadian Hungarians (1971)

Language	Person	Percentage
Hungarian	70 875	53,7
English	52 265	39,7
German	3 030	2,3
French	1 465	1,1
Serbo-Croatian	700	0,5
Czech and Slovakian	325	0,2
Greek	285	0,2
Indian and Eskimo	235	0,2
Japanese	210	0,1
Italian	175	0,1
Chinese	100	0,1
Finnish	75	0,1
Other	2 150	1,7
Total	131 890	100,0

picture on the use of the mother tongue by age groups is informative. It shows that in younger age-groups the share of Hungarian speaking person is the lowest, 20 years old reach 50 per cent, above this the share is increasing gradually, and age-group of 50 reaches 97 per cent.

Reviewing the question by age-groups the lesson may be drawn that speaking Hungarian is getting driven back among children under 15 years of age due to the school education, as in schools English is generally used. The population aged 50 and over speaks most frequently the mother tongue even today.

Table 12.

The usage of the mother tongue by age-groups

Age-group	Number of persons speaking Hungarian	Number of persons belonging to the age-group	Percentage
0 — 4	2 460	10 585	23,2
5 — 9	2 855	12 570	22,7
10 — 14	4 040	12 375	32,4
15 — 19	4 015	9 970	40,3
20 — 24	4 455	8 250	54,0
25 — 29	4 930	7 880	62,6
30 — 34	8 095	10 350	78,2
35 — 39	9 245	11 160	82,8
40 — 44	9 150	10 350	88,4
45 — 49	9 475	9 680	97,9
50 — 54	5 815	6 005	96,8
55 — 59	5 170	5 185	99,7
60 — 64	5 045*	4 865*	
65 — 69	5 745*	5 420*	
70 — 74	4 150*	4 115*	
75 — 79	1 935	1 935	100,0
80 — 84	795	805	98,8
85 — 89	315*	300*	
90 —	75	95	78,9

* Note: Errors in the publication are due to "random rounding".

See: Statistique Canada. Vol. I. part 4. (Bulletin 1.4) Tableau 10. et Vol. I. Part 4. (Bulletin 1.4 — 3)

It may be obvious from the above said how important role Hungarian schools play in preserving the Hungarian language. This was recognized already by the immigrants of the last years of the 19th century, therefore Hungarian schools were established in Eszterházy, Békevár, Otthon, Windsor, Hamilton, Montreal, Toronto, Ottawa, Vancouver, Regina and in Niagara Falls. Between 1892 and 1944 there were 64 Hungarian schools in Canada. In 1956, there were only 9. In my opinion, trustees of Hungarian culture have been the Hungarian schools. If the Canadian Hungarians have no opportunity to teach their children to read and write in

Hungarian, if they cannot learn Hungarian history, they will not find later any contact with Hungary.

It is heartening that in the last decade the reorganization of Hungarian schools has been started again in Canada in towns where 1000 or more Hungarians live. So-called Saturday schools have been organized by churches. Also the establishment of the Hungarian chair at the Toronto university in 1979 is of great promise. In fact, in Canada both social and economic life is dominated by the English language. Anyway, falling the Hungarian languages and also the relation to Hungarians back is very lamentable; if the present educational system will not change, namely the children of Hungarian parents will learn the Hungarian languages facultatively in the general schools in 2-4 lessons weekly only, in about 30 years the share of persons speaking Hungarian in Canada will fall back to 30-35 per cent. A poor consolation for us may be only the fact, that the preservation of the linguistic culture of other - larger - nationalities sets similar problems.¹¹ J. Henripin Canadian demographer describes the fact to the influence of the English-speaking world that in 1971 there were already more than 100 000 francophons of French origin who declared themselves as of originating from Great Britain. Due to similar causes the decrease of French-speaking Canadians is estimated, their share is put to 24 per cent by 2000. In 1971, it was 26,9 per cent.¹ It should be added, that the educational conditions of 5,8 million people being French by mother tongue (6,2 million by ethnic origin) may be regarded as well-ordered from the first level to the universities teaching in French.

In my study, information on the number and demographic structure of Hungarians immigrated and living in Canada are presented on the basis of Canadian statistics, mainly after the data of the Canadian Statistical Office. It should be noted here, that the analysis based on home sources would lead necessarily to different results, because Canadian statistics include also Hungarians immigrated from Romania, Czechoslovakia, Yugoslavia and other countries, declaring themselves as of Hungarian mother tongue, among the members of Hungarian ethnic unit.

As I mentioned earlier, the data on vital events, births, marriages, deaths are not processed by the Canadian Statistical Office by smaller ethnic groups. Therefore I tried to trace back and follow up the events of natural population movement through parish registers by the help of Hungarian parishes in Canada. Very sorry, my efforts were not crowned with success. The elaboration of this significant theme may be expected from Canadian Hungarian researchers.

FOOTNOTES

¹ Source: Projections démographiques pour le Canada et les Provinces 1972–2001. Statistique Canada, Catalogue N° 91–514, hors série.

² Parmenius sent his reports on his voyage of discovery to the English geographer, Richard Hakluyd, who published them entitled: R. Haukluyd: Voyages of the English Nation.

³ Recensement du Canada 1665–1871. Statistique du Canada Vol. 4. Ottawa 1976. p. 183.

⁴ The Canadian Family Tree 1867/1967. Continental Editions Ottawa 1967. p. 150.

⁵ International Migration Statistics Vol. 7. p. 717.

⁶ *Jenő, Ruzsa: A kanadai magyarság története* (The history of Canadian Hungarians). Toronto, 1940.

⁷ *Tamás, József: Magyar iskolák Kanadában* (Hungarian schools in Canada). Montréal 1966. p. 39.

⁸ On the life of the inhabitants of the first Hungarian settlements: Kaposvár, Eszterház information may be got from the publication: Esterhazy Hungarian Colony N. W. Territories, Ottawa, Government Printing Press, 1092.

⁹ According to other sources, there were 7,457 persons immigrating in the first decade of the 20th century. The greatest number of immigrations happened in 1903, when – according to migration statistics – there were 1566; according to Paul Santha dd.: Three Generations 1901–1957. The Hungarian Colony, Stockholm, Sask. Canada p. 14 – there were 2074 persons.

¹⁰ *Karol Krotki: La fécondité au Canada selon la religion, l'origine ethnique et l'état matrimoniel*. L'Université de Montréal. Collection de tiré à part 10.

¹¹ *J. Henripin: L'immigration et la déséquilibre linguistique* Ottawa 1974; and H. Charbonneau – J. Henripin – J. Légaré: L'avenir démographique des francophones au Québec et à Montréal en l'absence de politique adéquates. Revue géographique de Montréal XXIV(2)1970.

RÉSUMÉ

L'étude se porte sur le nombre et la composition de la population d'origine ethnique hongroise émigrée au Canada. Ses principales sources sont: les statistiques officielles canadiennes, la littérature sur les émigrations et les publications parues au Canada sur la population d'origine ethnique hongroise.

La majorité des données publiées dans l'étude proviennent des recensements. D'autres sont les résultats d'un travail représentatif. P. exp. les chiffres concernant la population entière, la répartition selon le sexe, la citoyenneté, la répartition selon la langue maternelle et la nationalité, les langues les plus souvent parlées et l'état civil. D'autres données, p. exp. la répartition selon les professions, la formation scolaire etc. du recensement de 1971 au Canada ont été fixées selon un prélèvement embrassant un tiers des données de base.

L'auteur a divisé l'étude du sujet mentionné dans l'introduction en deux chapitres. Dans la première partie il examine la formation du nombre de la population du Canada dans les deux derniers siècles, quelle a été l'influence de la reproduction naturelle et de l'émigration sur l'accroissement de la population.

Dans la deuxième partie, à la base des données sur l'émigration, il présente le nombre des Hongrois émigrés au Canada, leurs lieux d'établissement et les changements de ceux-ci. István Budai Parmenius fut le premier Hongrois qui, accompagné du fameux explorateur anglais Humprey Gilbert et cinquante ans après le capitaine marin français Jacques Cartier est arrivé au Canada. L'auteur examine l'émigration hongroise selon les périodes suivantes: 1. les émigrés de la seconde moitié du XIXe siècle; 2. les émigrés de la période allant de la fin de la première guerre mondiale à la seconde guerre mondiale; 3. les émigrés de la période allant de la fin de la seconde guerre mondiale à 1956; et 4. les émigrés de la période d'après 1956.

Ensuite à la base du recensement canadien de 1971, l'auteur présente la répartition selon le sexe et l'âge des 131 890 Hongrois vivant au Canada en la comparant aux données

démographiques de la population hongroise de 1970. Puis il présente la répartition selon l'état civil et les professions de la population d'origine ethnique hongroise. Dans la dernière partie l'auteur étudie la formation de la proportion de la langue maternelle et de la langue la plus utilisée parmi les Hongrois au Canada. Sa conclusion est que si on ne change pas au système actuel de l'enseignement, c. à. d. si les enfants des parents hongrois apprennent la langue hongroise seulement facultativement, de 2 à 4 heures par semaine, l'utilisation de la langue hongroise parmi les Hongrois va baisser dans trente ans du 53,7% actuel à 30 – 35%.

ZUSAMMENFASSUNG

Die Abhandlung beschäftigt sich mit der Untersuchung der Zahl und Zusammensetzung der nach Kanada ausgewanderten ihrer Abstammung nach ethnisch ungarischen Bevölkerung. Die wichtigsten Quellen der Studie sind: die offiziellen kanadischen statistischen Aufnahmen, die hinsichtlich der Migration zur Verfügung stehende Literatur, ferner die in Kanada über die ethnisch ungarische Bevölkerung erschienenen Publikationen.

Der größte Teil der in der Abhandlung vorkommenden Angaben stammt aus Volkszählungen. Andere Angaben sind Ergebnis repräsentativer Bearbeitungen. So beziehen sich z. B. die Angaben bezüglich der Zahl der Bevölkerung, der Verteilung nach Geschlechtern, Staatsbürgerschaft, Nationalität, ferner bezüglich der meist gesprochenen Sprache, des Familienzustandes auf die ganze Bevölkerung von Kanada. Andere Angaben, wie die Verteilung nach Beschäftigung, nach Bildungsniveau wurden von der kanadischen Volkszählung vom Jahre 1971 auf Grund der Zählung eines Drittels der Gesamtdaten festgestellt.

Der Verfasser hat die Bearbeitung des erwähnten Themenkreises in zwei Abschnitte geteilt. Im ersten Teil untersucht er, wie sich Kanadas Bevölkerungszahl in den letzten zwei Jahrhunderten gestaltet hat, wie die Entwicklung der Bevölkerung durch den natürlichen Zuwachs und die Wanderung beeinflusst wurde.

Im zweiten Teil verfolgt er auf Grund der Migrationsdaten vom Ende des XVI. Jahrhunderts bis zu unseren Tagen die Spur der nach Kanada ausgewanderten Ungarn, ihre Zahl, das Gebiet ihrer Niederlassungen und dessen Änderungen. Stefan Parmenius von Buda war der erste Ungar, der in der Gesellschaft von dem berühmten englischen Entdecker Gilbert Humprey, fünfzig Jahre nach dem französischen Marinekapitän Jaques Cartier nach Kanada gekommen ist.

Der Verfasser untersucht die ungarischen Auswanderer folgender Perioden: 1. Die Auswanderer der zweiten Hälfte des XIX. Jahrhunderts; 2. Die Auswanderer des Zeitabschnittes vom Ende des ersten Weltkrieges bis zum zweiten Weltkrieg. 3. Die Auswanderer des Zeitabschnittes nach dem zweiten Weltkrieg bis zum Jahre 1956; 4. Die Auswanderer nach dem Jahre 1956.

Im weiteren der Verfasser auf Grund der kanadischen Volkszählung des Jahres 1971 die Verteilung der in Kanada lebenden 131 890 Ungarn nach Geschlecht und Alter und vergleicht die Angaben mit den demographischen Daten der Bevölkerung von Ungarn im Jahre 1970. — Der Verfasser untersucht ferner die Verteilung der ethnisch ungarischen Bevölkerung in Kanada nach Familienzustand und Beschäftigung. Im Schlußteil beschäftigt sich die Abhandlung damit, wie sich im Kreise der in Kanada lebenden Ungarn das Verhältnis zwischen der Muttersprache und der am meisten gesprochenen Fremdsprache gestaltet hat. Der Verfasser zieht die Schlußfolgerung, daß der Gebrauch der ungarischen Sprache in 30 Jahren im Kreise des dortigen Ungartums von 53,7% auf 30 – 35% zurückfallen wird, falls sich das gegenwärtige Bildungssystem nicht ändern wird, wonach die ungarischen Kinder die ungarische Sprache wöchentlich nur in 2 – 4 Stunden fakultativ lernen können.